

Dated: July 31, 1997.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 97-20755 Filed 8-6-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Economic Analysis

Proposal To Collect Information on the Initial Report on a Foreign Person's Direct or Indirect Acquisition, Establishment, or Purchase of a U.S. Business Enterprise

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before October 6, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instruments and instructions should be directed to: R. David Belli, U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, BE-50(OC), Washington, D.C. 20230 (Telephone: 202-606-9800).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Initial Report on a Foreign Person's Direct or Indirect Acquisition, Establishment, or Purchase of the Operating Assets, of a U.S. Business Enterprise, Including Real Estate (Form BE-13) and the Report by a U.S. Person Who Assists or Intervenes in the Acquisition of a U.S. Business Enterprise by, or Who Enters Into a Joint Venture with, a Foreign Person (Form BE-14) obtain initial data on new foreign direct investment in the United States. The survey collects identification information on, and limited financial and operating data for, the U.S. entity being established or acquired. It also collects identification information on the new foreign owner. The data are

needed to measure the amount of new foreign direct investment in the United States, monitor changes in such investment, assess its impact on the U.S. economy, and, based upon this assessment, make informed policy decisions regarding foreign direct investment in the United States.

This survey is being revised to bring it into conformity with the proposed design of the BE-12, Benchmark Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States—1997. Beginning with reports covering 1998 transactions, BEA plans to raise the exemption level for reporting to \$3 million (measured by the acquired or established company's total assets) from \$1 million, thereby reducing respondent burden for small companies. A concomitant requirement that a report be filed for all acquisitions of 200 or more acres of U.S. land will not be changed. BEA also proposes to base industry coding of reporting companies on the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in place of the current system, which is based on the U.S. Standard Industrial Classification System. No changes are being proposed for Form BE-14, except that the exemption for reporting is raised to correspond to the new threshold for Form BE-13.

II. Method of Collection

The BE-13 survey must be filed by every U.S. business with over \$3 million of assets or 200 or more acres of U.S. land that is acquired to the extent of 10 percent or more, or is established, by a foreign investor. It is a one-time report that must be filed within 45 days of the acquisition or establishment. An exemption claim must be filed for transactions that do not meet the exemption levels of \$3 million of assets or 200 acres of land. The BE-14 survey is filed by a person who assists in an investment transaction, such as a real estate broker or attorney, or who enters into a U.S. joint venture with a foreign person. Its purpose is to provide BEA with the name and address of the newly established or acquired U.S. company, so that a BE-13 form can be mailed to it for completion.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0608-0035.

Form Number: BE-13/BE-14.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,200 annually.

Estimated Time Per Response: 1½ hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 1,800 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$54,000 (based on an estimated reporting burden of 1,800 hours and an estimated hourly cost of \$30).

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Order No. 912]

Expansion of Foreign-Trade Subzone 183A Dell Computer Corporation; Austin, TX

Pursuant to its authority under the Foreign-Trade Zones Act of June 18, 1934, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) adopts the following Order:

Whereas, an application from the Foreign Trade Zone of Central Texas, Inc., grantee of Foreign-Trade Zone 183, for authority to expand Foreign-Trade Subzone 183A at the Dell Computer Corporation plant in Austin, Texas, was filed by the Board on March 27, 1997 (FTZ Docket 24-97, 62 FR 17147, 4/9/97); and,

Whereas, notice inviting public comment was given in **Federal Register** and the application has been processed pursuant to the FTZ Act and the Board's regulations; and,

Whereas, the Board adopts the findings and recommendations of the examiner's report, and finds that the requirements of the FTZ Act and Board's regulations are satisfied, and